Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BANGKO 19025 261235Z ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 INR-05 CIAE-00 PM-03

L-01 /035 W

-----069412 261410Z /43

R 261040Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO CINCPAC HONOLULU

INFO JCS

CINCPACFLT

CINCPACAF

CINCMAC

SECSTATE WASHDC 5554

SECRETBANGKOK 19025

LIMDIS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: MARR, TH, US

SUBJECT: AIRCRAFT SUPPORT ARRANGEMENTS

REF: (A) CINCPAC 241922Z AUG 77 (B) CINCPAC 200335Z AUG 77 (C) CINCPAC 252352Z AUG 77

- 1. CHJUSMAGTHAI 250840Z AUG 77 RESPONDED TO REF B ON THE FEASIBILITY OF CONTINUED USE OF TAKHLI. THE EMBASSY IS IN AGREEMENT WITH THAT ASSESSMENT. THE SAME PROBLEMS AND EXPENSES INVOLVED WITH CONTINUED USE OF TAKHLI IN THE ABSENCE OF US SUPPORT FACILITIES OBTAIN AT UTTAPAO.
- 2. THE FOLLOWIG RESPONDS TO QUESTIONS RAISED IN REFS A AND C REGARDING CURRENT UTAPAO CAPABILITIES: NAVAIDS (TACAN/VOR) OPERATIONAL; FIELD LIGHTING, IN-SECRET

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OPERATIVE; TOWER, FIRE FIGHTING, UNACCEPTABLE -- ONE FIRE TRUCK ONLY; BASE SECURITY, COULD BE ARRANGED WITH THAI MILITARY; J P-4 AVAILABLE BUT HYDRANT SYSTEM IN-OPERATIVE. WOULD PROBABLY REQUIRE TRUCKING COMMERCIAL FUEL IN OR ARRANGING FOR SEPARATE STORAGE; WHETHER BRIEFING --WEATHER OFICE EXISTS, ALTHOUGH BARELY SATISFACTORY; CREW BILLETING--ADEQUATE FACILITIES NOT

AVAILABLE ON BASE. CLOSEST ACCEPTABLE AREA, PATTAYA BEACH. ROUGH ESTIMATE OF COST MIGHT BE MADE BY YOU IN RELATION TO COST OF CURRENT MAC C-141 FLIGHT INTO DON MUANG. SUPPORT FOR MACFLT COSTS APPROXIMATELY \$2,000 PER MONTH FOR SERVICES. THIS CIVERS 4 LANDINGS PER MONTH BUT DOES NOT INCLUDE FUEL.

- 3. IN ADDITION, UTAPAO POSES POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES.
 THIS SUBJECT HAS BEEN BROACHED IN DISCUSSION WITH DEPUTY
 SUPREME COMMANDER, GENERAL KRIANGSAK CHAMANAN, WHO STATED
 UNOFFICIALLY THAT FOR POLITICAL REAONS THE THAI COULD NOT
 AGREE TO THE USE OF UTAPAO FOR THE US MILITARY AIRCRAFT,
 INCLUDING P-3S. GEN KRIANGSAK STATED HOWEVER THAT HE
 BELIEVED THERE WOULD BE NO DIFFICULTY FROM THE THAI STANDPOINT IN ARRANGING FOR PERIODIC P-3 LANDINGS ON THE
 MILITARY SIDE ON DON MUANG AND SERVICE AT THE MILITARY
 TERMINAL. HE PREDICATED HIS COMMENT ON THE FREQUENCY
 OF CURRENT P-3 TRANSIT FLIGHTS AT TAKHLI WHICH HAS BEEN
 APPROXIMATLY TWO PER MONTH.
- 4. WE BELIEVE THE SAME TYPE OF VERBAL APPROVAL THAT COVERED THE USE OF TAKHLI WOULD SUFFICE FOR USING DON MUANG AS A TRANSIT POINT, WITH THE SAME FLIGHT CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS IN EFFECT. HOWEVER, THE QUESTION OF USING DON MUANG FOR P-3 TRANSIT FLIGHT MUST BE REVIEWED BY AMB. WHITEHOUSE, SECRET

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WHO IS IN U.S. ON LEAVE, BEFORE APPROACH TO RTG CAN BE MADE.
O'DONOHUE

SECRET

NNN

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